

Universal Immunization

3277. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the evaluation conducted by the UNICEF in 2006 has recorded any improvement in the coverage of universal immunization and if so, the extent of improvement in percentage during 2001 to 2005 for full immunization;

(b) to what extent the poor rural families below poverty line has been utilizing the incentives under Janani Suraksha Yojana; and

(c) whether under the increased budgetary allocation for 2006-07 for NRHM Government have planned to strengthen the Janani Suraksha Yojana network in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) UNICEF has conducted 3 coverage evaluation surveys since the year 2001 i.e. during 2001, 2002 and 2005. The reported full immunization coverage in these three surveys is as under:—

2001	53.8%
2002	56.3%
2005	54.5%

(b) The Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) aims at promoting institutional deliveries among poor families. As per reports received from States/UTs. More and more poor rural families are utilizing incentives under Janani Suraksha Yojana. In 2005-06, total beneficiaries in the scheme were around 5.73 lakhs. Till December, 2006, total number of beneficiaries has increased to more than 20.00 lakhs in the year 2006.07.

(c) Yes, Sir. During the year 2006-07 Government has decided to include the pregnant women from SC/ST families in the fold of Janani Suraksha Yojana. In States with weak health indicators, cash assistance to mothers in rural areas in low performing States has been increased from Rs. 700/- to Rs. 1400/- per institutional delivery. Besides, limitation of age, marital status and parity have also been removed.